

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00182 131232Z
ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SNM-02 /006 W
-----131241Z 029119 /12-R

R 131201Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4501

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STADIS//////////

LIMDIS

FOR IO - ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEWIS AND IO/EX FROM AMB CATTO

PASS: S/NM - AMB VANCE

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG, APER, SNAR, UN

SUBJ: PERSONNEL VACANCY, UN DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS

REF:76 STATE 307881

1. AS YOU KNOW I HAVE BEEN PAYING SPECIAL
ATTENTION TO PLACING COMPETENT AMERICANS IN INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS. I BELIEVE AS YOU DO THAT THE BEST WAY TO ACHIEVE
US INTERESTS IN AND THROUGH THESE ORGANIZATIONS, IS TO
STRENGTHEN ORGANIZATIONS FROM WITHIN, SINCE PROFESSIONALLY
COMPETENT SECRETARIATS ARE BEST GUARANTEE THAT CONSTANT
US PRODDING WILL NOT BE REQUIRED TO PROTECT US INTEREST AND
THAT UNDESIRABLE PRESSURES CAN BE DIVERTED.

2. OPPORTUNITIES FOR PLACEMENT OF COMPETENT AMERICANS
EXIST IN MANY GENEVA-BASED ORGANIZATIONS, WHERE US IS
UNDERREPRESENTED. OFTEN, HOWEVER, IT IS NECESSARY TO PRESENT A
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CANDIDATE PERSONALLY KNOWN TO THE ORGANIZATION IF US IS TO COMPETE
SUCCESSFULLY.

3. SUCH A SITUATION HS NOW ARISEN IN UN DIVISION
OF NARCOTIC DRUGS. AS YOU ARE AWARE, PROGRAMS CARRIED
OUT BY UN/DND FOR UNFDAC IN INTEREST OF COMBATTING
ILLICIT NARCOTICS PRODUCTION, TRAFFIC AND USE ARE OF

PRIME IMPORTANCE TO US AND WE HAVE CONTRIBUTED SOME EIGHTY PERCENT OF UNFDAC FUNDS TO DATE. DND OPERATIONS STAFF MUST BE STRENGTHENED, HOWEVER, IF UNFDAC-FUNDED PROGRAMS ARE TO BE EXECUTED EFFICIENTLY AND IF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHR DONORS ARE TO E ATTRACTED.

4. A KEY VACANCY ON DND OPERATONS STAFF IS ARISING WITH IMPENDING DEPARTURE OF LISELOTTE WALDHEIM-NATURAL. MRS WALDHEIM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DND PROGRAMS IN ASIAN "GOLDEN TRIANGLE". I BELIEVE WE SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PLACE AN AMERICAN WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND UN DEVELOPMENT EXPERTISE IN THIS POSITION. WE HAVE ALREADY INFORMED DND DIRECTOR THAT US WILL PRESENT A QUALIFIED CANDIDATE. WE PROPOSE RICHARD SPRINGER OF THIS MISSION TO BE THE CANDIDATE. SPRINGER HAS FIVE YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN IO AS OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR UNDP AFFAIRS. IN ADDITION, HE HAS BACKSTOPPED NARCOTICS COUNSELLOR GOUGH SINCE ASSIGNMENT TO THIS MISSION IN 1975 AND IS THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH PROGRAMS OF UN NARCOTICS BODIES. OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE IN THIS CASE, SPRINGER IS WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO UN/DND OFFICIALS AND THEREFORE IN FAVORABLE COMPETITIVE POSITION VIS-A-VIS CANDIDATES WHO MAY BE ADVANCED BY INCUMBENT AND OTHERS.

5. WHILE SPRINGER HAS SOME RESERVATIONS DUE TO LEVEL OF WALDHEIM-NATURAL POSITION (SHE IS P-4), HE HAS STRONG INTEREST IN NARCOTICS FIELD (REF HIS ARTICLE IN APRIL 1972 FSJ) AND HAS AGREED TO BE CANDIDATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON SECONDMENT BASIS.

6. WHILE PRECISE DATE OF WALDHEM-NATURAL'S DEPARTURE IS NOT YET KNOWN, TIMING OF SECONDMENT COULD PRESUMABLY BE ARRANGED TO FOLLOW PRESENT HEAVY PERIOD OF ACTIVITY IN SPRINGER'S PRESENT DUTIES THROUGH ECE 32ND SESSION.

7. YOUR SUPPORT FOR SPRINGER CANDIDACY IS REQUESTED. TIMING IS IMPORTANT SINCE WE WISH TO PRESENT THE CANDIDACY PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT, WHICH IS EXPECTED WITHIN FEW DAYS. CATTO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA00182
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770013-0326
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770156/aaaabwsf.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0b3e70da-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 76 STATE 307881
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3608881
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PERSONNEL VACANCY, UN DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS
TAGS: AORG, APER, SNAR, US, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0b3e70da-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009